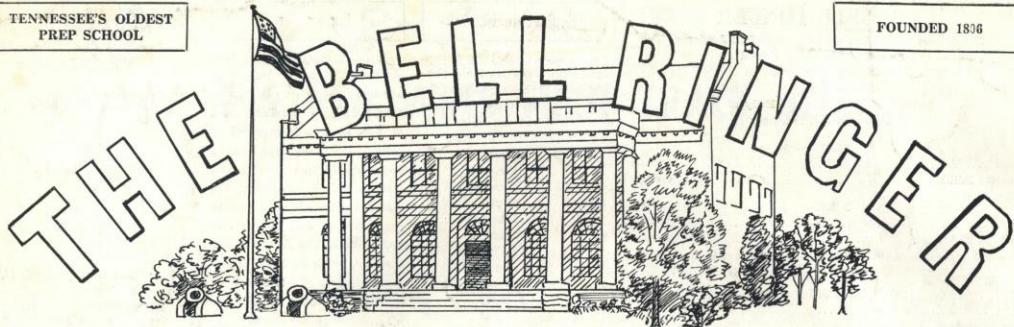


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VOL. X, NO. 3

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

APRIL, 1954

### RESULTS OF COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING POLL

Nearly two out of every three American high school boys and girls favor compulsory military training. More than 65% of the girls and 66% of the boys voted in favor of the general principle of compulsory military training, according to the latest Institute of Student Opinion poll sponsored by *Scholastic Magazines*.

The recent vote shows a decided upswing in favor of compulsory military training during the past two years. In an Institute of Student Opinion poll, conducted in March, 1952, only 54% of the teen-agers polled were in favor of compulsory military training. The latest poll even exceeds the favorable vote in 1948 when 63% of the boys and girls polled were in favor of military training. During World War II, students were much less enthusiastic about compulsory military training. In 1943 students were asked: Are you in favor of a year's compulsory military service by 17 to 21-year-old boys after the war? In 1943 less than 35% of the students polled were in favor of it; this percentage rose to 46% in 1944.

Although 1954 high school students endorse the principle of compulsory military training, they do not like the recently proposed plan for carrying out the military-training program. Only 37% of the boys and 38% of the girls approved of the plan with its lottery feature as recommended by the National Security Training Commission. More than 54% of the boys and 50% of the girls disapproved of a plan which would require all boys to train for six months and then spend seven and one-half years in the Ready Reserve.

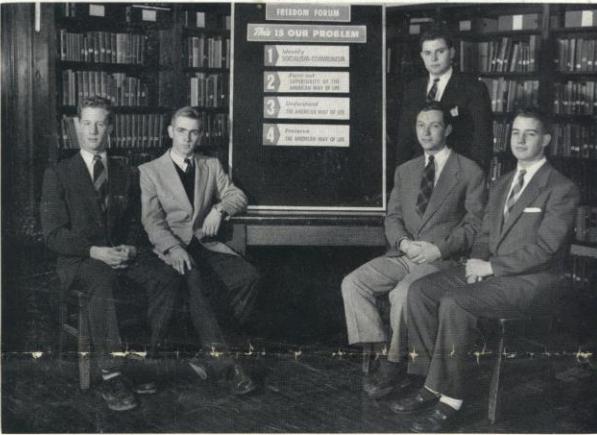
Both boys and girls showed more interest in a military training program calling for two years of training without the Ready Reserve period of uncertainty which might make career planning more difficult. Nearly 42% of the boys and 41% of the girls favored such a program, the recent poll indicated.

Typical comments by some individual students:

"Military training is a must; 1941 proved conclusively that we must be ready in emergencies."

"Is it right for a draw (or a

### MEMBERS OF THE FREEDOM FORUM



Left to Right: Rob Lightfoot, Steve Wood, John Sloan, John Hardcastle, and Seawell Brandau.

lottery), such as that proposed by the National Training Commission, to decide a question which might greatly affect a person's entire life? Would it not be unfair to draft one prospective college student into the army while his classmate, drawing the six-month training plan, could complete his education earlier?"

"I'd rather serve two years active duty and be in the Stand-by Reserve for six years (than be in the Ready Reserve)."

Another question on the recent poll ballot measured high school student opinion on whether girls should prepare for careers other than homemaking. More than 90% of the girls approved and nearly 70% of the boys agreed with the girls approving.

Staff members of several hundred high school newspapers, members of the Institute of Student Opinion, assisted *Scholastic Magazines* by sampling the opinion of students in all sections of the United States; 48,399 students voted on printed ballots.

Most of the M.B.A. boys favored the general principle of compulsory military training; however, they did not like the present plan. They preferred the plan of two years of active duty followed by six years in the Stand-by Reserve. Almost all of them thought that girls should prepare for a career other than homemaking.

### FREEDOM FORUM SPEAKS AT VARIOUS PLACES

During the past two years, the Freedom Forum has spoken at high schools in Nashville and Davidson County, and eight business organizations including men's groups. The five seniors who compose the Freedom Forum are Rob Lightfoot, John Hardcastle, Steve Wood, Seawell Brandau, and John Sloan. Mrs. Campbell, our speech teacher and librarian, is their coach.

The Freedom Forum was founded by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. Recently our team was awarded the George Washington Honor Medal by the Freedoms Foundation.

Another question of the Freedom Forum is to promote the American way of life and to attack communism and socialism.

This year the Freedom Forum has spoken at Hillsboro and Peabody.

The student body of M.B.A. is very proud of the success of the Freedom Forum and the fine speakers who compose it.

### WEST'S TROPHIES RECOVERED

On Thursday, April 1, three children, Mary, Frances Parsons, Harriet Chandler, and Mary Catherine Chandler found West's State Championship basketball trophies in a field. To this date the thief has not been found; the authorities, however, have not given up the search for him.

### BRANDAU AND PFEIFFER WIN SCHOLASTIC HONORS

It was announced not long ago that Seawell Brandau would be the valedictorian of the senior class at graduation. Seawell, who has worked very hard during his four years of high school, won the top honor with a brilliant 96.45 average. From the time he entered the Academy, Seawell has been at the top of his class. It then came as no surprise that he should lead the graduating class in June.

Bill Pfeiffer was announced at the same time as the salutatorian of the class. He was also elected second to Seawell with a final 95.71 for his four years at M.B.A.

Bill came to M.B.A. in the seventh grade and after six years of hard work wound up in the number two spot among other hard working seniors.

These boys are setting a good example for other M.B.A. students to follow. Congratulations to both of them for their fine work during their four years of high school.

### LIGHTFOOT WINS IN SPEAKING CONTEST

On Friday, March 26, Rob Lightfoot won first place in the declamation division of the Tennessee Interscholastic Literary League at Austin Peay State College in Clarksville. He will represent M.B.A. in the state meeting at the university of Tennessee in Knoxville later this spring.

In addition to Rob, eleven other

### IAN STUART SPEAKS IN ASSEMBLY

During the first week of March, Mr. Ian Stuart spoke to us on "America, Its Hopes and Destinies".

Born an Irishman, Mr. Stuart has taught in schools all over the British Isles. Later he immigrated to America and now calls the Southland his home.

Mr. Stuart is quite an interesting speaker and his free and unselfed manner quickly won over our student body. He has made talks throughout the South and Midwest, and is very well-known over this region. During the week preceding his visit with us he had spoken in nearly all the high schools of Nashville and in a few Junior High schools, and Elementary schools.

His thoughts on the future and heritage of our country were reassuring and inspiring. Many of us had never thought of our country's wealth in proportion to many of the world's greatest nations. Never will we, as Americans, have to fear famine or starvation; for with our present annual surpluses and an ever increasing technical ability, we will be able to support a much greater population than we now have. As long as we keep up our faith in God, our mental abilities, and the national pride of our forefathers of 1776 and 1861, we will never be conquered by foreign powers.

We, as Americans have a great heritage of liberties conferred on us by our hearty ancestors who built this land. Too often we take this wealth and these liberties for granted.

In Mr. Stuart's own words, "The future of this country lies not with the Democratic or Republican parties, but with the youth of America!"

boys went from M.B.A. On the debating team were John Hardcastle, Andy Coles, Eddie Holt, and Ed Blank. This team won three out of six rounds. In the humorous division, Harry Lawson won second place with John Sloan winning third place in the extemporaneous group. Rob won in the oration division. Others who entered in the contests were Seawell Brandau, original oratory, Dick Sobel, dramatic reading, and Jimmy Rule, poetry interpretation.

M.B.A. made a fine showing in Clarksville. We would like to extend our wishes of good luck to Rob in the State meet.

## THE BELL RINGER

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## CLASS NEWS

### Grade School News

We are told that the privileged boys have been hanging around in the Spanish room telling jokes instead of studying. People involved in this are Provine, White, Hamilton, and Edmonds.

"Big Pockets" Hamilton has been giving cokes to the writers of this column. Wonder why?

Dozier is helping Muse pass with regular meetings in the lunch room. White looks on with interest.

Eighth grade room becomes house of horror as Mrs. Thompson asks for mystery themes. McClellan reads his story. Class drops dead.

New dad in seventh grade is girls. New dad in eighth grade is seventh grade's girls. Muse claims he doesn't need to rob the seventh grade.

Crowell throws a fit as Turner beats him in arithmetic class.

West learns how to drive. Goes through red light.

Collins shoots bird on campus. Fired five demerits.

Hamilton scribbled "Hell and High Water" on arithmetic paper. Mrs. Thompson seen at show. Hamilton seen in demerit hall.

Eighth grade basketball team beats seventh grade 36 to 26. Leading scorers were Steinbaugh with 11 and Johnson with 7.

Boys on the privileged list are Kent Hamilton, Robert White, David Waller, Will Provine, Johnny Muse, Roger Peek, Jimmy Hayes, Willo Collins, Tony Edmonds, Warner Bell, Frankie Cawell, Bullets Gillegie, Tom Stephens, Guy McClellan and Tom Sloan.

This column is not approved by Good Housekeeping.

### Sophomore News

### Senior News

Well, here I am back with a little more news on the sophomore class. These are some of the nicknames of the sophomore class; see if you can figure them out.

Slats  
Wessel  
Browning  
Horse  
Liberace  
Climate  
Duke  
Skeeter  
Teeny Weeny  
Shorty  
Magno Tweezers  
Lips  
Sano  
Little Nig  
Black  
Pony  
Stick  
Crome  
Lipstick  
Begal Beak  
Cob  
Soobs  
Handy Andy  
Rocky  
Slim John  
Skin Babe  
Siamese Sam  
Fangs  
Goose  
Beaver

Bulldog

These are just some of the many you pass every day.

Perusing over their books these last few days were Steve George, John McDougal, Thurman McLean, Roger Owen, Jim Perry, John Provine, and Eddie White.

Over the Easter holidays all will rest up for the home stretch. The so called rest will include fishing, sailboating, parties, etc.

See you at Stunt Night.

### Junior News

Well I hope all you junior men are enjoying this fine spring weather. Mr. Rule doesn't seem to think the weather is so good, for the other day, he told his study hall that they would have to go to the cafeteria when five bells rang, meaning that a tornado would hit us. It didn't come, though. Everybody was disappointed because the school didn't blow down. . . . Goodman blows his head off in chemistry lab. Mr. Winstead says, "Aw, you ain't been pick up your head and don't be talking to me." Junior debating stars, Edward Blank, Eddie Holt and Andy Coles made a trip to Clarkesdale to represent M.B.A. in a contest held there.

Even though they lost, we give our thanks to these speakers for the fine job they did in representing our school in the contest.

Chemistry projects due in immediately, if not sooner, says Mr. Winstead. Physics class has none; Chemistry class has about 10. Real cooperation, I'd say. The ones that are in are very good, and will try to make a showing at Peabody. . . . Steal stars in intramural basketball, (26) points. . . . Mrs. Sager stops letting Spanish students write words in book, Spanish grades drop. . . . Here's a list of some Junior nicknames. See if you can match them to the right person.

Popo, Veger, Soup, Chuck, Cow, Nothing, Flea, Termite, Eli, Dago, Rummy, Potato Nose, Cho-cho Kiddie, Happy, Sister, The Head, Hanky, Bloop, Papa Snake, Coondog, Livy, Pernalube, Hawk, Right Angle, Yama-Moto Foggy, Nubbins, Moocher, Mule, Cave Kiddie, and Onion. . . .

That's all for now—See you next issue.

## Bottom of the Afternoon



By Blue La Rue

Hello again from your friend, Blue La Rue. A group of the Seniors skipped school during lunch; Dr. Sager is asked if he had a holiday. Senior room fails; Seniors still looking for a project. . . . Lightfoot makes 68 daily averages in Physics, comes up with 96 on report card. How does he do it? . . . Mr. Wise tells how he was almost mobbed in his greenhorn teaching days; Juniors mob Mr. Wise. . . . Mr. Winstead sets up P.A. system in lab; Hardcastle gives oration. . . . Lunchroom boys sell milk to privileged boys; Mrs. Thomson calls police. . . . Looks like everyone is trying to imitate Dr. Sager as fraternities initiate freshmen. . . . Jimmy Rule interrupts Trig. class as he asks Mr. Rule for the car. Reuther exclaims, "Let him, Mr. Rule, I want to hear him scratch". . . Hardcastle's grades drop as he leaves school every Monday to go to court. . . . Wood gets pinned again; makes third time this month. . . . Craig sets paper on fire in Trig. class, then moves. Says Craig, "I was just trying to get away from the smoke". . . Holt says that blue shirts are the fashion now, but Strayhorn argues that green shirts are better. . . . there is a last minute rush as Mr. Winstead says he wants the projects on immediately if not sooner. . . . Last period English class flunks as Mrs. Bitter gives a different test. . . . A. Coles has a wreck and takes a holiday from school. Riot is started by Goodman, Cooney, Allen, and Overall for they are kicked off the privilege list for three weeks. Goodman says, "He can't do this to me". . . As far as we know, for the first time in history Mrs. B. gave an English test and didn't take grades. Some typical grades: Anderson—18; Wood—42; Woodfin—55. . . . So long for now; see you in several decades when the next issue comes out.

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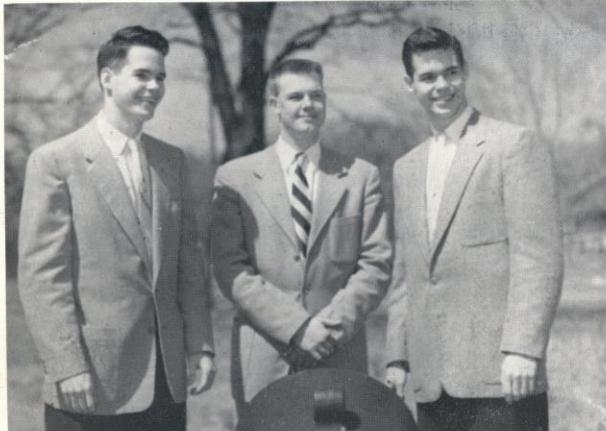
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## Personalities of the Month



L. to R.: Bob Scales, Duke Kennedy, Dick Scales.

### Bob Scales

After graduating from Woodmont School, Bob Scales came to M.B.A. as a freshman. He has entered into many activities and maintained a high scholastic average since then.

During his freshman and sophomore years, Bob played on the J.V. football team. Since his junior year he has been on the tennis team every spring and fall. This year he played H-Y basketball until he sprained his ankle. Also this year he is going out for the track team.

Bob is a member of the Key Club and the Hi-Y Club. Because his scholarship is very good, he is a member of the National Honor Society. Also he is a member of *The Bell Ringer* staff, for which he writes "Bottom of the Afternoon".

Bob is a member of the Kappa Phi Fraternity, and one who is ready and willing to help when he can.

At St. George's Episcopal Church, Bob serves as treasurer of the League and is a member of the Acolytes Guild.

Next fall Bob plans to enter Vanderbilt and, because mathematics is his favorite subject, he will study engineering. Bob was one of the eight seniors chosen to take the Founder's Scholarship exam.

Among his likes and dislikes are:

Favorite subject: Math  
Favorite food: Steak  
Disliked subject: History

### Duke Kennedy

Duke, one of the most popular boys on the campus, came to M.B.A. as a freshman from Stokes school. During his Sophomore year, he attended Hillsboro High but the next year he returned to M.B.A.

His activities have been varied. He played on the golf team during his freshman and junior years, and he plays to this year. This past season he managed the football team. He has also served on the *Bell Ringer* staff for the past two years. On The Bell staff, Duke writes an assistant sports editor. He is a member of the Monogram Club, having lettered in golf. In addition he is captain of one of the intramural cage teams.

Duke is a member of the Delta Sigma Fraternity, which he serves as Sentinel.

Duke is a friend to every boy in school, and his warm smile and cheerful disposition are well known.

Among his likes and dislikes are:

Favorite Food: Nick's spaghetti  
Disliked Subject: Math  
Favorite Subject: History

### Dick Scales

The *Bell Ringer* staff has selected Dick Scales as one of its personalities this month. Last year he was chosen to be assistant editor of this paper, and is editor-in-chief this year. He has greatly improved the paper by putting in five-column papers instead of four-column ones, and changing the masthead. We certainly think that he has done a fine job in this department.

Dick came to M.B.A. from Woodmont as a freshman and has had an excellent record since. During his freshman and sophomore years, he played J.V. football. He has been a member of the Key Club for three years and the H-Y Club for two. He stands very high scholastically in the school, and is a member of the Senior Honor Society. Recently he was elected to be a reporter for the Youth In Government Convention, sponsored by the Tennessee Hi-Y clubs.

Dick is a member of the Kappa Phi fraternity, and is a very hard worker.

He plans to enter Vanderbilt University next fall, and he will study engineering.

Among his likes and dislikes are:

Favorite subject: Math  
Favorite food—Fried chicken  
Disliked subject: Spanish

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## Girl of the Month



**Nancy Bowers**

This month "The Bell Ringer" honors as its "Girl of the Month" Miss Nancy Bowers, Nan is a 17 year old junior at Hillsboro where she has made a record breaking record.

She graduated from Stokes School and began her freshman year at Hillsboro. Her first honor was being elected treasurer of her freshman class and since then she has been treasurer of her freshman home room, secretary of her sophomore home room, president of her junior home room, a member of the Civinette club, a member of the Student Council, and an alternate cheerleader. Upon entering high school she pledged membership in the Les Bons Temps club and has proven a very active member. She attends church at the Hillsboro Church of Christ.

It is indeed an honor for "The Bell Ringer" to have such a fine girl as Nan Bowers as its "Girl of the Month."

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## VANDALISM INCREASING IN NASHVILLE

Vandalism has been increasing steadily in Nashville since last January. The latest case is the stealing of the three trophies won by the West End high school basketball team in the hard-boiled state tournament. Other vandals are as follows: The firecracker-like aerial bomb that was tossed into the front yard of former Mayor Thomas L. Cummings at 204 Mockingbird Lane. Brakes released on six parked automobiles in the Hillsboro section, allowing the vehicles to roll, causing a great deal of damage.

Delinquency is caused by three factors, according to H. C. Brearly, Peabody college sociologist; imitation of individuals, manipulation and stimulation of success. Mr. Brearly thinks that the acts of vandalism are being performed by teenagers in that "crucial period of being almost—but not quite—men and women."

Studies of delinquency conducted at Harvard University show:

Six out of every ten juvenile delinquents have fathers who drink to excess.

Many have mothers who drink to excess.

Three out of four are permitted by parents to come and go as they please.

Three out of five are from homes where there is discord between parents.

Seven out of ten are from homes where there is no group or family recreation.

Four out of five have parents who take no interest in the children's friends.

Four out of five delinquent boys say their mothers were indifferent to them.

Three out of five delinquent boys say their fathers were indifferent to them.

Many come from broken families.

Few get religious training of any kind.

Since there has been so much vandalism in Nashville, it is time for the law to go after these hoodlums with the same ruthlessness that they themselves employ.

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